

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A manual trash compactor device which fits on any trash container with components that store out of the way in normal usage of the trash container and easily assemble for use in compacting the trash in the container, the device comprising:
- a trash can cover adapted to fit securely and removably on a trash container, the cover comprising a top surface having a central opening therethrough, a pivot means at
- 10 one edge of the top surface, a latch means at an opposite edge of the top surface, and a peripheral rim extending downwardly from the top surface for engaging a top of a trash container to cover the trash container, the peripheral rim having a means for storing a flat object under the cover;
- a lever arm handle is pivotally attached at a first end to the pivot means of the
- 15 cover and removably attachable at a second end to the clamp means so that the handle is adapted for lifting the cover with the second end of the handle fixed in the clamp means, the handle having a slot along a bottom of the handle;
- a vertical shaft having a pivotable top end which fits slidably within the slot underneath the handle and which shaft is adapted for passing downwardly through the
- 20 central opening of the cover during a compacting use of the trash container and further adapted for storing within the slot of the handle during trash placement in the container and trash removal from the container;

a compactor plate being configured to fit slidably in a horizon orientation within the container, the compactor plate having a top center means for removably connecting a bottom of the shaft to a top of the compactor plate so that during compacting the lever arm handle presses down on the shaft which forces the compactor plate to compact the trash in the trash container with the top of the shaft sliding in the handle slot as the handle pivots downwardly, and during use of the trash container for depositing trash in and removing trash from the trash container, the shaft is adapted to be removable from the compactor plate, and to be removable up out of the container and to be attachable in the slot in the bottom of the handle for storage, and the compactor plate is adapted to be storable under the cover in the means for storing a flat object under the cover.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the vertical shaft is a telescoping shaft adapted to telescope outwardly to a desired compacting length for compacting trash in a trash container and telescope inwardly to a desired storage length for storage in the slot in the handle.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the central opening in the cover is a threaded opening and the vertical shaft is a threaded shaft adapted to screw down through the central opening in the cover for compacting trash in a trash container.

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4. The device of claim 1 wherein the means for storing a flat object under the cover comprises a series of tabs protruding from a bottom surface of the cover and the

compacting plate is adapted to snap fit into a bottom of the cover with the compacting plate engaging the series of tabs.

5. The device of claim 1 wherein the cover is formed with a peripheral rim in
5 a shape conformable to and mating with a rim of a trash container.

6. The device of claim 1 wherein the compacting plate is configured in a
shape conformable to and smaller than a horizontal cross-section of a trash container so
that the compacting plate is adapted for moving vertically within the container with a
10 trash bag between the compacting plate and the trash container.